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Stormwater Notice – August, 2006

Construction Site Runoff Control

Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Plans & Inspections

City of Murfreesboro

This Notice explains how Murfreesboro will begin to inspect land disturbance activities for compliance with erosion prevention and sediment control (*epsc*) standards. Our interest is preventing erosion, preventing loss of sediment to the storm drain system, preventing loss of sediment and contaminants to streams and to the Percy Priest Reservoir.

1. Beginning in September, inspectors from the Planning and Engineering office and the Water and Sewer Department will begin conducting scheduled inspections of land disturbance activities.
 - a. We will inspect priority construction activities (*pca*) at least once per month. *Pca* sites include all residential subdivision developments, all disturbances of five acres or more and smaller sites near to certain streams.
 - b. We want you or your on-site erosion prevention and sediment control expert present to witness the inspection and sign the record of observations.
 - c. An inspection can take us as few as 15 minutes or up to one hour.
 - d. Our initial round of inspections for *epsc* is referred to as **Phase I**. We plan for Phase I to last one or two months.
2. What will we check for on an inspection?

In Phase I, inspectors will focus on seven or eight questions. These are circled on the attached Construction Activity Inspection form (**Q**) and generally include:

- availability and use of an erosion prevention and sediment control plan;
- a written record of your checks and repairs of *epsc*;
- the condition of your *epsc* (e.g. construction exit, silt fence, basin); and
- whether you are keeping streets clear of sediment.

For most *epsc* problems/deficiencies, we will note on the form that you must correct the deficiencies within 72 hours or less. Subsequently, your twice-weekly inspections and record of repairs should show actions you take to correct the deficiencies.

3. What will we do with the inspection reports?
 - a. Provide your on-site representative a copy of our report and route a copy to the property developer on record in our Land Disturbance Permit files.

- b. The inspection reports will be filed in your projects Land Disturbance Permit file and key pieces of information tracked in an electronic form.
4. What are the inspection criteria and standards?
- a. We refer you to the City's stormwater management ordinance, [City Code Chapter 27 ½](#), particularly parts 27 ½-5 and 7.
 - b. The City has adopted the Tennessee Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook as the standard for use and implementation of erosion prevention and sediment controls on construction sites. The current version of the Handbook is available on the web at one of the following sites:
http://www.state.tn.us/environment/wpc/sed_ero_controlhandbook/
<http://www.tnepsc.org> ; or you may contact the UT Water Resources Research Center, phone no. 865-974-2151.
 - c. Enclosed is a sheet "Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Inspection Values – Murfreesboro" (b) that highlights good practice for several common controls. You should comply with these control practices.
5. What sort of recordkeeping do I need to have on site?
- a. Please take note of the above-referenced sheet of inspection values where the important records are listed.
 - b. Also enclosed is a City of Murfreesboro inspection form (C) designed to be used by you to fulfill your inspection records requirement.
 - c. Your records must be maintained on site or at a nearby accessible location. Acceptable options for storage of records on site are a mailbox or "filebox," or the lower cost option of a large, sealed plastic bag fixed at an accessible, out-of-the-way location. Communicate with your inspectors on the location of these records.
 - d. Our City ordinance states [ref. part 27 ½ - 5(h)]:

The Permittee shall conduct and record regular inspections of Erosion Prevention and Sediment control (EP&SC) BMP's, for the purpose of preventing Erosion and transport of Sediment off the property into the stormwater drainage system and into Waters of the State...

Inspections to fulfill the minimum-frequency requirements above shall meet the criteria set forth in the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) construction activity runoff general permit...[This refers to a twice per week inspection frequency, at least 72 hours apart.]

The inspections and records shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

 - (A) The date and location of the inspection;
 - (B) Any repairs and/or remedies undertaken on EP&SC BMP's;
 - (C) Whether construction is in compliance with the approved plans;
 - (D) Variations from the approved construction plans or specifications; and,
 - (E) Any violations that exist.

- e. Recordkeeping benefits you and the City and improves communication among you, the public and us. The state requires that you keep these records for three years.
- 6. After one to two months of inspections, we will schedule a meeting to review your and our progress with State and City erosion prevention and sediment control requirements.
- 7. Additional information
 - a. Related to Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control plans

[Stormwater Management Ordinance 27 ½- 7\(e\)](#) lists the necessary parts of an EPSC plan. Enclosed is a checklist (**d**) based on City ordinance.

Plans must show erosion prevention and sediment controls over the life of the construction activity. Enclosed is an example form (**e**) for this purpose.

b. Enforcement

One reason for an initial one-two month inspection period (**Phase I**) is to familiarize you and us with new protocols. None of us wants to engage in the time-consuming and costly enforcement process.

The City of Murfreesboro is subject to enforcement actions if we do not police your construction sites. You are subject to enforcement by the State Department of Environment and Conservation, and by the EPA, if your site disturbance is one acre or more or part of a plan of development of one acre or more. Be aware that the state has been increasing its enforcement proceedings. See this slide show http://state.tn.us/environment/wpc/stormh2o/pdf/EC_CGP_Presentation053006_1.pdf on the state's web site <http://state.tn.us/environment/permits/conststrm.shtml>.

c. Web links for more information

City's web site: www.murfreesborotn.gov/government/water_sewer/stormwater.htm

Note: A copy of this Notice is posted on the City's web site with live hyperlinks.

State construction web site: <http://state.tn.us/environment/permits/conststrm.shtml>

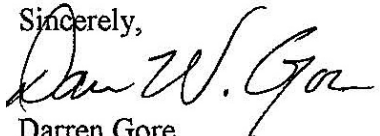
Erosion Control Magazine on-line: <http://www.erosioncontrol.com/ec.html>

Construction Industry Compliance Assistance Website: www.cicacenter.org/

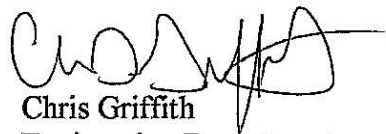
Land Development Today article: www.landdevelopmenttoday.com/Article694.htm

We appreciate your attention to water quality and storm water quality in Murfreesboro. Feel free to call Robert Haley at 848-3200 with questions.

Sincerely,



Darren Gore
Water and Sewer Department



Chris Griffith
Engineering Department